by Delhi Police against several past purchases of communication equipment in respect of which the inquiry was assigned to the then Deputy Commissioner of Police (Vigilance) on 3rd February, 1999. The subsequent complaints, including the complaint on the purchase of wireless sets in question, was also entrusted to the same inquiry. The enquiry is now being conducted by the present incumbent of the post, Shri Mukesh Kumar Meena.

(b) On the request of Delhi Police, services of a technical expert were made available to them to assist in the inquiry. Efforts are being made to expedite the inquiry; however, no definite time-frame can be given for its completion.

(c) The purchase proposals are processed and finalised at various levels as per the delegated financial powers.

Raising of Rashtriya Suraksha Samiti by Bajrang Dal

362. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bajrang Dal has decided to raise armed forces by the name of Rashtriya Suraksha Samiti in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) The activities of all organisations having a bearing on the maintenance of peace and communal harmony in the country are under constant watch of law enforcement agencies and requisite legal action is taken, where necessary.

Harassment of Minorities

†363. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that incidents of harassment and attacks on minority Christian community have increased in many States of the country during the last three years;

(b) if so, the State-wise details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the incidents of harassment and attacks on Christian community is more in Uttar Pradesh in comparison to other States;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(e) the details of the steps taken by the Central Government to prevent these incidents?.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) There have been some incidents of violence aimed at Christian and their institutions in the recent past in some parts of the country, but most of the incidents, however, relate to law and order/ crime. Details of such incidents during the period from Jan. 1998 onwards, are given in Annexure [*See* Appendix 190, Annexure No. 3(b) Sapra]

(c) and (d) The incidents of violence against the Christians and their institutions have been comparatively higher in Uttar Pradesh, only during the period March to June 2000, of course without any specific reasons.

(e) As per the provisions of the VII Schedule List-II-State List of the Constitution of India, law and order is a State subject. However, the Central Govt. shares intelligence inputs and sends advisories and alert message to the States from time to time. Revised guidelines for the promotion of communal harmony have been issued in October, 1997, the Central Para Military Forces are made available on specific requests and a special force called the Rapid Action Force has been deployed to deal exclusively with the communal violence. Assistance is also being provided for modernization of the policing infrastructure.

A high level meeting was convened on 04.07.2000 to review the situation, and the State Govts. have once again been urged to provide security to the minorities and their institutions and to deal firmly with the perpetrators of violence against them.

The Home Minister addressed a meeting of the State Chief Secretaries, Home Secretaries and Directors General of Police on 28th June, 2000 where he strongly condemned all such incidents of attacks on Christians and their institutions and urged the State Governments to apprehend the culprits quickly so that the guilty, irrespective of who they are, could be brought to book.

Extorsion by ULFA and NDFB in Assam

364. SHRI R. P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some business houses in Assam are being extorted by ULFA and NDFB;